THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has notified regulations for "Entry and Operation of Foreign Universities/ Institutions Imparting Technical Education in India" on 3rd April 2003.

(b) No investigation has been conducted by AICTE so far. The AICTE has issued advertisement in the leading neswpapers recently, calling for registration of foreign universities/institutes imparting technical education in India.

(c) Accreditation by the authorised agencies in the parent country with higher grades where grading is available, shall be a pre-requisite condition for any foreign university/institute to start its operation for imparting technical education in India.

Scheme to motivate professionals

641. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (U.G.C.) has launched a scheme to motivate the professionals both retired and in service to take up teaching at undergraduate colleges located in various areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its main objects;

(c) the response of the academic community to the scheme; and

(d) by when the scheme is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per information furnished by U.G.C. it has no such scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increase of fees in Open Universities

†642. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a large section of people will be deprived of the education due to the increase of fee in Open Universities;

(b) if so, whether any justified step would be taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) According to the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University, the increase in fee is nominal. The University has stated that there has been increase in students enrolment in the University in January, 2003 session, over the last corresponding session.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise.

Errors in the text books of VI and IX classes

643. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that anomalies, objections and factual errors were pointed out by a section of academicians and intellectuals in the text books meant for class VI and IX brought out by NCERT; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Certain articles, editorials and reports pertaining to the history component of the social science textbooks for classes VI and IX were brought out by SAHMAT in the form of a booklet under the title "Saffronished substandard; a critique of the new NCERT textbooks" in December, 2002. A point -by-point comprehenisve response to the objections raised in the various articles of the booklet to certain statement made in the class VI book was soon afterwards provided by its author, Prof. Makkhan Lal in a published booklet. The NCERT took into consideration both SAHMAT's "Critique of the new NCERT textbooks" and, Prof. Makkhan Lal's responses thereto and on verification of facts from various authentic sources found that most of the objections raised